Issue Guide:

No Trespassing:

TRUMP'S EXECUTIVE ORDER

March 2, 2017
3:30 pm - 5 pm
Municipal Building: Council Chambers

Introduction: <u>Trump's Executive Order Broken Down</u>

On January 27th, 2017 newly elected President Donald J. Trump signed in a profound executive order that massively impacted immigration. In the aftermath, the nation has been split in support and protest for this so called "Muslim Ban". Due to this preconceived notion, many people believe they already comprehend the order. However, according to the ban, it is NOT a ban on muslims and actually has several other key components other than the section on religion. Now, the major points of President Trump's executive order will be laid out, so that all will understand the full scope of the order. The purpose of President Trump's Executive Order is to identify and prohibit individuals who are hold negative views towards the U.S.A., due to links with terrorists groups, from entering the country. Trump cites the September 11th attacks as the main catalysts for this action. He acknowledged that after these attacks there were changes made to the visa-issuance process, but said that it needs more work. First, Section 3 marks that because citizens of Iraq, Syria, Sudan, Iran, Somalia, Libya and Yemen are "detrimental to the interests of the United States", no entry will be allowed

to immigrants and refugees for 90 days after the order is put into place.

There will be increased and more efficient screening processes to identify foreign nationals who are coming to the US with intent to harm others. This includes in-person interviews, a database of identity documents, application forms used to detect harmful intent, a mechanism to ensure that the applicant is who the applicant claims to be; and a process to evaluate the applicant's likelihood of becoming a positively contributing member of society and the applicant's ability to make contributions to the national interest. Next, there will be a suspension of the U.S. Refugee Admissions Program (USRAP) for 120 days. Plus, a review of the Program to ensure it is sufficient to keep malicious foreign nationals out of the country.

President Trump made a section to prioritize refugee claims made by individuals on the basis of religious-based persecution, provided that the religion of the individual is a minority religion in the individual's country of nationality. This is where to so-called "Muslim Ban" ideology comes from, in the fact that the countries banned from entrance are all majority Muslim. Therefore, most refugees who seeking asylum in the United States will be denied entry because there is a higher chance they are of the Muslim faith.

Other points include a:

- Cap of 50,000 refugees allowed entrance in the fiscal year of 2017
- Increase in local and state government involvement in determining immigrant processes.
- Use of a biometric entry and exit system
- Suspension of the Visa Interview Waiver Program
- Review of all nonimmigrant visa reciprocity agreements by the Secretary of State. If a country does not treat United States nationals seeking nonimmigrant visas in a reciprocal manner, the Secretary of State shall adjust the visa validity period, fee schedule, or other treatment to match the treatment of United States nationals by the foreign country, to the extent practicable.
- Finally, an estimation of the USRAP

After 180 days (and every 180 days after) information relevant to this order shall be made public, including the number of immigrants who have been charged with terrorism-related offenses, the

number of immigrants who have been radicalized, the number and type of gender-based violence attacks (ex. Honor killings), and any other information relevant to public safety.

At first glance, this Executive Order may only seem to affect the immigrants who are attempting to enter our nation. However, it has several implications for all citizens of the United States of America. They range from economic repercussions to changing impressions on our reputation as a country as a whole. Through the past generations, America has been known the world's melting pot or a nation of immigrants. The idea of the "American Dream" has enticed immigrants and refugees from across the globe to make a life-altering journey to call the U.S.A. their home. Sadly, though, some of these radical foreigners have taken advantage of this "open-door" policy. The most notable, and obvious, example of this was the horrific September 11th attacks that claimed the lives of almost 3,000 innocent citizens. Due to this and the growing fear of other rising terroristic threats, many people support this order in defense of national security. Yet, what we ask today is, is President Trump's Executive Order on immigration just? Just is defined as an adjective meaning guided by truth, reason, justice, and fairness. So does this regulation reflect humanity and is it backed by integrity? Through this deliberation we will look at three different approaches that can be used as distinct perspectives in which to judge the Executive Order. The aspects analyzing will be religious implications, economic impacts, and the effect on National Security. As more information is provided, please remember to not think if the order is beneficial or hurting or nation, just ask yourself if you believe it is just. If it is fair through the scopes presented in each approach.

Approach 1: <u>Religious Aspects</u>

Immigration; this word to Americans means more than just coming from one area and going to another. Immigration to us was how our country was formed, and now it is being attacked by our 45th president Donald J. Trump. In Trump's recent change of our immigration policies, which was signed on January 27th, turned towards the suspense of people from seven different muslim majority countries. This suspense was suppose to last for 90 days and would affect those from the countries of Iran, Iraq, Libya, Somalia, Sudan, Syria, and Yemen. While not only suspending these immigrants f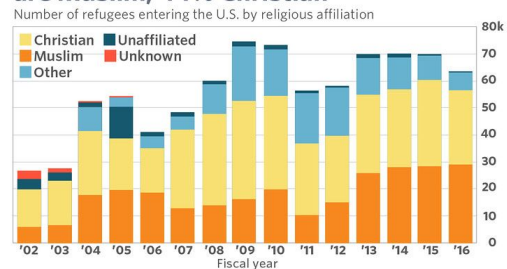rom coming to America it also suspended the United States refuge administrations and specifically suspended the Syrian refugee program indefinitely.

During the suspension of the Refugee program Trump also plans to crack down and make it harder for refugees to be accepted into our country but also to lower the amount of refugees accepted into the US in the Fiscal 2017 year from 110,000 to 50,000. Due to this many people feel like this is a ban on Muslims. While I do not agree or disagree with this I can fully see why people may believe that this is ban on Muslims. A quote from Donald Trump himself reads, "If you were a muslim you could come in, but if you were Christian, it was almost impossible and the reason that was so unfair, everybody was persecuted in all fairness, but they were chopping off the heads of everybody but more so the Christians." (The Hill) . While I can not personally disprove or prove that what he stated in this quote is false or true I can only show the statistics that can be found from the Pew Research Center.

In the Pew Research Center's study they looked at the total amount of refugees that were taken in by the United States in 2016. Overall, 37% of all refugees whom were admitted into the United States where religious minorities in their home countries and 63% were religious majority (Pew Research Center). Of the 37% of refugees who were Religious minorities that were accepted 61% were christians, 22% were Muslim, 9% were another religion, 6% were Hindu, 1% were unaffiliated, and <1% were jewish (Pew Research Center). Of the 63% that were in the religious majority, 60% were muslim, 35% were Christian and 6% were buddhists(Pew Research Center). If one does the math using the information provided by the Pew Research Center you can figure out that 44.55% of all refugees accepted into the United States were Christian and that 45.9% were Muslim. With this information along with Donald Trump directly saying that Christians will be given preference when selecting those who will be given refugee status helps to lean towards the idea that his ideas to change immigration policies are sided towards a religious ban on muslims. Looking at the facts presented it can be taken as a ban towards muslims.

While this order will affect the refugees trying to immigrate and naturalize into our country it will also affect American citizens whom already have a dual citizenship in one of the seven countries that are being affected and America.

What this means is that, for 90 days after January 27th, if you are a citizen of America and are currently in your home country and you try to return to America you will be help in customs and then you will have to go through a case-by-case waiver so that you can be permitted back into the country. This was only after a judge ruled that citizens of the seven countries who are holding valid visas and have already arrived in the United States cannot be removed from the United States.

The process for United States green card holders from one of the seven banned countries is to board their plane and fly to the United States. Once they have landed in United States territory they will have their fingerprints and other information collected (CNN). This collection

of information will then be added to a registry of muslim citizens. After this information is collected they will then be sat down and subjected to a secondary interview which is to judge whether the traveler is a national security risk or not (CNN). While regulation is needed to be able to help keep America a safe and secure country it does not have to affect those who are already naturalized in our country and should not discriminate against the citizens who also live in the countries that have travel restrictions.

Overall, Trump's executive order on immigration could be viewed to either be a way to protect America or a way to discriminate and make those who follow the muslim religion to feel persecuted. So I will leave you all with this question. Do you believe that the executive order is a ban on muslims or a way to protect America and the safety of American citizens.

Approach 2: <u>Economical Impacts</u>

Some factors of the ban that are not directly dictated in the order itself include, but are not limited to economic impacts. Some of these impacts are positive, such as protecting the future economy from a devastating impact. There are, however, negative impacts that are not as far off into the future such as decrease in trade, tourism, and jobs.

International trade is extremely important not only for the building of good relationships, but also the exchange of goods that are only produced in certain areas of the world. According to Forbes on February 1, 2017, President Trump's new executive order on immigration has the potential to affect trade in two main ways. First, United States companies will have to jump through excess financial hoops to locate other areas of the world to trade the products that they currently do in the banned regions.

This will hurt consumer in the United States because this increases the risk of rising prices. If the price increases too drastically, the product will not sell, which would cause trade to cease. The spreading of this mentality throughout other countries would have adverse effects and harm the

relationships that the United States has built with unfriendly countries over the past 70 years. This would have a plethora of negative effects, especially in the area of oil. NPR writes that although the majority of oil is no longer imported from the Middle East, there is still enough imported that increased prices from OPEC would still harm the economy. According to The Wharton School of Business at The University of Pennsylvania, this policy "could undermine the reputation of the United States as a reliable place to do business," and this is most

definitely not the direction in which the growing nation should be moving. The Atlantic then confirmed this on January 27, 2017 when Trump's policy had flavors of the desire to form an isolationist state, which will damage the United States' standing in the global economy, as well as remove any opportunity to continue influence of other nation-state politics. Although not stated in the executive order, Trump is making other plans to curtail trade, such as leaving the Trans Pacific Partnership trade negotiations and increasing tariffs. These policies coupled with the negative trade impacts from the executive order will have deleterious effects on the United States economy.

A separate impact of Trump's executive order is a decrease of tourism leading to a decrease in gross domestic product, GDP. According to Investopedia in January, muslim tourism is increasing at a rate of 3.8% over the past 3 years, with a projected growth rate of 4.79% by 2020. In 2013, the National Travel and Tourism Office determined that the United States gained $18.4 billion from muslim tourists alone. Moreover, 153,586 students traveling to the United States to study at the University level spend about $5 billion total on tuition alone. By banning all muslims from the United States, MarketPlace reports that $24 billion will be shaved off from the United States economy. Since the tourism for the United States is decreasing, other countries have the potential to increase their tourism from the muslim community. Japan and Australia are two examples of countries increasing Muslim-friendly amenities in their country, hoping to increase incentive to vacation in their respective country. This could negative long-term effects on the United States because Muslims from around the world could begin to have a growing negative opinion of the United States, which would decrease international tourism from non-muslims as well.

Another negative effect of President Trump's executive order is on jobs, specifically those workers who are special work visas. Starting in the end of January, if individuals from any of the banned countries were in their respective country, they could not re-enter due to the executive order. According to The Wharton College of Business at the University of Pennsylvania, there are a significant number of companies in the country that hire refuges, some argue it is what makes the United States a great place to live. People can come into the country, work, then go back home. By banning this, other argue that "[hiring refugees] is just who we are, and this seems to knock the air out of us." This ban has direct negative effects on the economy, with an estimated 182,000 loss of jobs in just one year. If the ban is continued, there is no telling how many more jobs will be lost. The loss of these jobs alone would decrease the GDP of the United States by $30.5 billion, which is a huge negative impact.

If the executive order was not put in place, there was a possibility of an increase in likelihood of a terrorist attack. By evaluating the effects of the terrorist attacks on September 11th, we can see how a terrorist attack today would impact the United States economy. Directly after the attacks, the stock market shut down, and when it came back, The Dow promptly fell 7.13%. This drop of 617.78 points was the Dow's worst one day drop, ever. Looking at the finances of the war following the attacks, there was a total of over $1.8 trillion spent. This was not spent directly after the attacks, but all was a result to combat terrorism. If this executive order protects the United States from terrorism, its intention, then there is no telling how much money will be saved by preventing any attacks.

Approach 3: <u>National Security</u>

<u>**Introduction**</u>

Although not everyone agrees with Trump's methods, his executive order was essentially a decision made for national security. As such, certain questions must be taken into account when evaluating the necessity and effectiveness of Trump's executive order; for example:

"How beneficial is Trump's executive order to national security?"

"Do those benefits outweigh any negative aspects of the ban?"

"Do the people who were banned from entering the country actually pose a threat to Americans?"

Each person must answer these questions for themselves; however, we aim to give you some of the facts that must be taken into account when answering these questions.

<u>**A Brief History of America's Immigration Policies**</u>

America was built on immigration. It is often forgotten during discussions such as these that the people we refer to as Americans are not the indigenous people of this continent. Not even 500 years ago, the majority of American citizens' ancestors were considered European immigrants. America has become as great as it is today because of the different cultures and ideologies that came together and coexisted in one place. America's immigration policy has been constantly evolving to fit its needs since its birth as a nation. Before any uniform rules were established, individual states controlled their own immigration policies. Beginning in 1790, one had to be a

resident of the United States for only two years in order to be considered in naturalization; during this time, immigration—particularly from Europe—was welcomed as a way for the nation to grow and develop.

1864 was the first time immigration control was centralized under the Secretary of State. During the time following this, the importation of contract laborers was legalized then banned; the entry of many other groups were also banned or restricted, including prostitutes, convicts, the Chinese, those convicted of political offenses, lunatics, idiots, persons likely to become public charges, polygamists, political radicals, the physically or mentally disabled, those with tuberculosis, unaccompanied children, illiterates, persons of psychopathic inferiority, those entering for immoral purposes, alcoholics, stowaways, the Japanese, and vagrants were prevented from entering. Some of these policies have of course been changed since they were instated, but this long and varied list goes to show how the ideologies and needs of America as a nation have changed over the course of the past two centuries.

In 1952, a comprehensive statute was established. It reaffirmed a past-established immigration quota system based on nationality, limited immigration from the Eastern but not the Western hemisphere, established preferences for skilled workers and the relatives of U.S. citizens and permanent resident aliens, and tightened security and screening standards and procedures. In 1965, that same quota system was abolished, but the principle of numerical restriction was maintained. By 1980, 20,000 immigrants were admitted per country with a total of 270,000 immigrants worldwide.

The Immigration Reform and Control Act of 1986 was one of the first major comprehensive reform efforts. It legalized aliens who had resided in the U.S. illegally for four years, established sanctions for employers concerning unauthorized employees, created a classification of temporary agricultural workers and provided for their legalization, and established a visa waiver program for the admission of certain nonimmigrants without visas. Four years later in 1990, the total allowed number of immigrants per fiscal year was increased to 675,000, revised all grounds for exclusion and deportation and repealing some grounds for exclusion, authorized the Attorney General to grant temporary protected status to illegal aliens of certain countries designated as areas subject to armed conflict or natural disasters, revised naturalization requirements, and revised enforcement activities.

Following the 9/11 attack, Bush began military operations in Afghanistan, beginning his global war on terror. He also passed the USA Patriot Act, giving investigators a lot of leeway in

their domestic surveillance activities, along with the Intelligence Reform and Terrorism Prevention Act and revising the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act. Immigration laws were

tightened and cybersecurity and cargo screening was increased, as was security at airports. He also worked more with other countries to prevent future terrorist attacks and make America more secure. Obama's administration withdrew the American military—some say prematurely—from the Middle East, choosing instead to begin targeted drone strikes. He began focusing more on the threat of homegrown terror inspired by groups like ISIL and Al-Qaeda, trying to come up with methods to prevent this new type of terrorist activity.

One misconception that definitely must be addressed is Donald Trump's claim that "My policy is similar to what President Obama did in 2011 when he banned visas for refugees from Iraq for six months." This is not a true statement. Obama's supposed visa ban was not a ban at all. There was simply a backlog in the administering of visas to Iraqi refugees after two men from Iraq, who were living in Kentucky at the time, were discovered to be connected to a roadside bombing on U.S. troops in Iraq. National security then rescreened thousands of Iraqi refugees, resulting in the backlog. This also prompted an overhaul of the screening system.

Intro to Trump's policy

President Donald Trump moved quickly in his first 100 days in office to evaluate and fortify America's immigration policy. The process for changing immigration policy can be tedious and complicated. As a result, Donald Trump signed the executive order more formally known as the "Muslim Ban" The executive order was met with fierce and persistent resistance from many in the following weeks after the announcement. There have been many discussions about the legality, morality and fairness of the order. Those conversations are important and relevant, but regardless of those components of the executive order we must ask the question, will this action keep Americans safe?

Visa Process

The most common and encouraged way for foreigners to enter the United States is through obtaining a visa. The visa process gives America control of who is in the country and when they are expected to leave. This allows the American government to enable immigration and ensure the safety of its citizens. The visa is only successful when the individuals leave when they are instructed. However, the enforcement of immigration policy has been undependable. According to the Department of Homeland Security in the 2015 fiscal out of the 45 million people that had expired visas, 416,500 were still in the U.S. This creates a safety concern because there is no accountability for the people in the country.

President Trump identified this problem and the executive order would have given him more time to fix America's flawed visa system. The executive order reinforces that, "The visa-issuance process plays a crucial role in detecting individuals with terrorist ties and stopping them from entering the United States." Attacks like 9/11, the Boston Bombing, and the San Bernardino shooting were committed by individuals that were able to be in the country because of visitor, student, or business visa. A more stringent process to obtain those various visas could certainly prevent future attacks. According to the United States department of Justice, the administration has already revoked 60,000 visas in response to the executive order. These actions will ensure that threats to this country are not able to enter because of lenient visa policies.

While the Muslim Ban could give time for our country to strengthen its defense against terrorism it will work against America in another way. Many people fear that the reforms made in the visa process will decrease or stop some of the important programs we have now. For example, the popular H-1B visa that allows up to 65,000 foreign nationals each in science, computer, and engineer fields to come to America. In addition, visas like the J-1, which allows summer work travel, and the OPT, for international students to stay in the U.S. after graduating will also be changed.

The relationship that America has with foreign visitors is a relationship that benefits both sides. While America is bringing in the best and brightest, the individuals granted visas are taking advantage of the opportunities. The visa process must be safer but not at the expense of innovation that foreign visitors bring.

Countries Banned

The Trump administration determined what countries to ban in the executive order based on countries that the Obama administration identified as "countries as concern". The citizens in the various banned countries are living in pandemonium every day. By continuing to admit these citizens, we heighten the risk that we admit an individual that could try to cause similar chaos. It is safe for the United States to admit the citizens and refugees from these countries in such deep turmoil? Below are glimpses of the civil unrest in the seven countries involved in the executive order:

Syria

Syria's current climate is the worst amongst the seven banned countries. Since 2011, there has been constant conflict following the Arab Spring, a rebel group, trying to overthrow President Bashar al-Assad's regime. In that time period since 2011, there has been an estimated 400,000 people killed and major cities completely destroyed. The presence of ISIS has grown in all the confusion as well. As a result, Russia and the United States have both intervened which has created even more problems. The airstrikes used by both countries have killed innocent citizens and added to the debris total.

Iraq

The dilemmas Iraq has as a country date back to 2003 when the United States invaded the country. After Saddam Hussein was hanged in 2006, U.S. forces remained in Iraq in hopes of bringing some stability to the new government. Unfortunately, when the U.S. troops left Iraq in 2011, the Iraqi military wasn't able to stop the growth of ISIS in their country. U.S. troops have had to return and fight alongside Iraq to regain major cities. Recently, American troops we able to assist in a retake of the eastern portion Mosul. The successful operation did not come without a cost though. 114,000 people lost their homes in the process and food and water our scarce.

Iran

Since the 1970s Iran has had economic sanctions imposed on them by the United States. This has caused high numbers of unemployment. However, under the Obama

administration the economic sanctions were lifted in hopes of stopping the development

of Iran's nuclear program. As a result, Iran's economy rebounded and political interest resurged. Many people hoped for different political institutions but government is very autocratic. The civil rights of minorities, woman, and opposing parties are always threatened. An Amnesty International report stated Iran "severely curtailed the rights to freedom of expression, arresting and imprisoning journalists, human rights defenders, trade unionists and others who voiced dissent."

Yemen

The civil war that has been going on in Yemen started two years ago. Yemen is another country that has dealt with the constant growth of ISIS. The destruction of cities and political unrest has benefitted ISIS and their takeover of Yemen's cities. Even before the presence of ISIS, Yemen was a failing state. The economy was weak, many citizens lived in poverty, and food and water was scarce. Put these two things together and it explains why Unicef reported there are 1.5 malnourished children in the country.
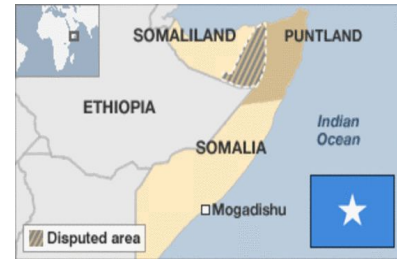
Libya

Prior to the death of longtime leader Moammar Gadhafi, Libya was one of the wealthiest and stable countries in Africa. Following his death, there was a large political void that had to be filled. This void has led to the last six years of civil unrest. ISIS has had a presence in Libya's major cities as well. The United states has assisted in gaining back control of the cities from ISIS but that has not settled the anarchy. As groups fight for political power there seems to be no ed in sight to the civil unrest.

Somalia

Somalia has been unstable the longest out of the countries affected by Donald Trump's executive order. Somalia's civil war started in 1991 following the end of Siad Barre's dictatorship. After 25 years of conflict the country is in shambles and the infrastructure and institutions are obsolete. It will take political stability to rebuild the country. That will be difficult considering terrorist groups like Al-Shabaab have been a mainstay in Somalia for several years.

Sudan

The process of obtaining tranquility and peace has been hindered in Sudan because of the Darfur conflict. The Darfur conflict, which began in 2003, consisted of several terrorist groups that tried to overthrow the government. The Sudanese has fought back relentlessly though. The conflict continued to escalate until it hit its pinnacle in 2008, when an estimated 300,000 people had died. Sudan's President Omar al-Bashir, was even charged with genocide by the International Criminal Court. Like most countries in immense turmoil the citizens are suffering the most. The lack of food and water and allocation of remaining public resources also contributes to the chaos.

As previously stated Donald Trump used the criteria provided by the Obama administration to decide which countries should be a part of the ban. The seven countries were said to be "countries of concern". There has not been any further justification for why these particular countries were banned. The ban seems to be misled because these countries have had very little involvement with terrorism towards the U.S. According to the CATO Institute, seventeen people from the banned countries were convicted of directly planning an attack on the U.S. in the last forty years. However, no one from these ban countries has killed anyone in a terrorist attack on U.S. soil in the past forty years. Charles Kurzman, a Sociology professor at The University of North Carolina, who tracks Muslim American violent extremism doesn't see the correlation between the banned countries and terrorism either. He mentioned, that since the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks, only 23 percent of Muslim Americans involved in extremist plots had family ties in the seven countries banned by Trump. Also, out of those individuals, "there have been no fatalities in the United States caused by extremists with family backgrounds in those countries."

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